

FISITA 会長挨拶

FISITA President's Message for FISITA Formula SAE World Cup

Welcome to the programme for Formula SAE Japan 2006 - the first Formula SAE competition to host the prestigious new FISITA Formula SAE World Cup.

Formula SAE began in 1981 when the first event was organised in the United States by SAE International, FISITA's largest member society. It soon grew in size and popularity, attracting teams from all the world to travel to the US to compete. SAE's initiative served as the inspiration for a series of similar Formula SAE competitions, based on the same rules and organised by fellow FISITA member societies.

In 1998, a modest trial event was organised in the UK, which also grew quickly to become a major international event. Competitions in Australia, Japan and Brazil soon followed. More recently, Formula SAE events have been started by FISITA societies in Germany and Italy. Today Formula SAE is arguably the most successful student engineering competition in the world. It succeeds where other, theory-based competitions fail because it captures the imagination of students, teachers and industry people alike.

The excitement of motor sport certainly helps to give Formula SAE its unique appeal, but these competitions are about much more than racing. They are about giving tomorrow's engineers a taste of the challenges they will face in the world of industry. Many of these challenges are technical, and of an engineering nature - but they are also about leadership, teamwork and communication. They call for an understanding of other disciplines such as finance, project management and marketing; and they call for the ability to see the bigger picture of a vehicle project, as well as the detail.

In other words, Formula SAE matters because it teaches skills that simply cannot be learned in the lecture theatre or the laboratory. The results speak for themselves. The quality of design and fabrication evident in many of the competition cars is breathtaking in its professionalism. More impressive still is the talent, organisation and enthusiasm displayed by the teams themselves.

There is an international quality to Formula SAE, which is another great strength of the series. Students from different nations and cultures are able to interact, build contacts and learn from one another. This too is priceless experience which will serve them well in today's global auto industry.

Indeed during 2006, students from more than 230 universities and colleges around the world will take part in FSAE events. As the world federation of automotive engineering societies, FISITA wants to encourage this international dimension as far as possible. That's why we have made sponsorship available to the top-placed teams from each of the FSAE / Formula Student competitions in the US, UK, Japan and Australia - so that they can bring their cars to Japan and compete for the FISITA Formula SAE World Cup, together with prize money of EUR 1,000.

This competition will showcase the achievements of some of the world's very best student engineers, as well as providing an exciting and enjoyable experience for everyone who takes part. I would like to thank the members and staff of all the societies involved in Formula SAE, and especially to the Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan for being the first to host this exciting new trophy.

I wish all the teams competing for the FISITA Formula SAE World Cup the best of luck.



Daniel M. Hancock
FISITA President

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D Hancock', written in a cursive style.

